# Foundations

A 31-DAY JOURNEY
THROUGH BIBLICAL CREATION

Every writer of Scripture treated the opening chapters of Genesis as real history. They also read them as a series of signposts. Paul saw Adam and pointed his readers to Christ. John saw the Word as the One by whom the universe was formed. The prophets saw a sin-cursed world and pointed to a promised renewal. Genesis sits at the start of the story, and the rest of the Bible is built on it.

This 31-day devotional follows the thread from Eden to the empty tomb. Each day pairs a moment in Genesis with a New Testament passage that shows where it leads.

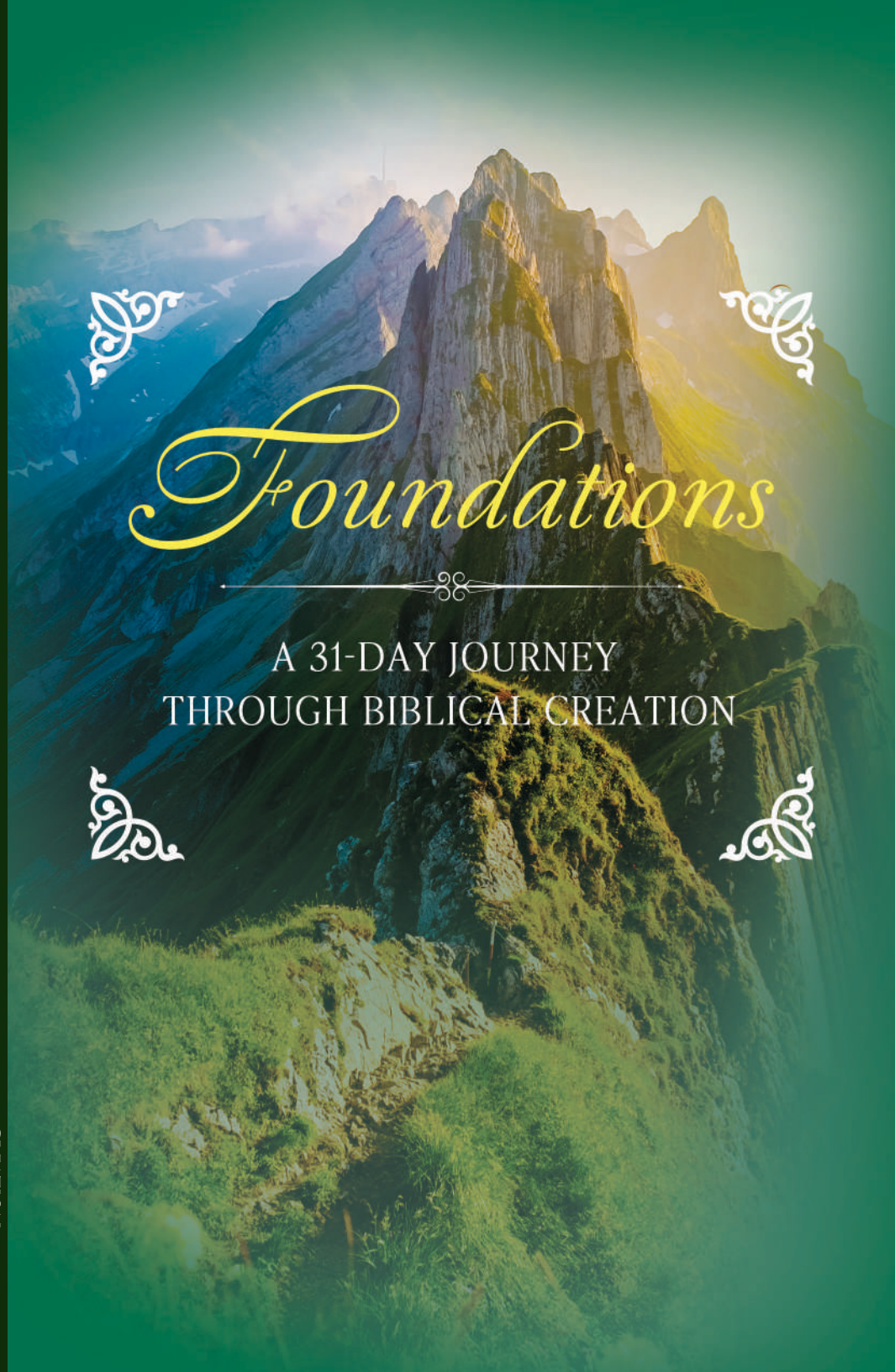
These early chapters become a doorway into the whole Bible to build your faith and establish a firm foundation for the rest of Scripture.

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## A 31-DAY JOURNEY THROUGH BIBLICAL CREATION

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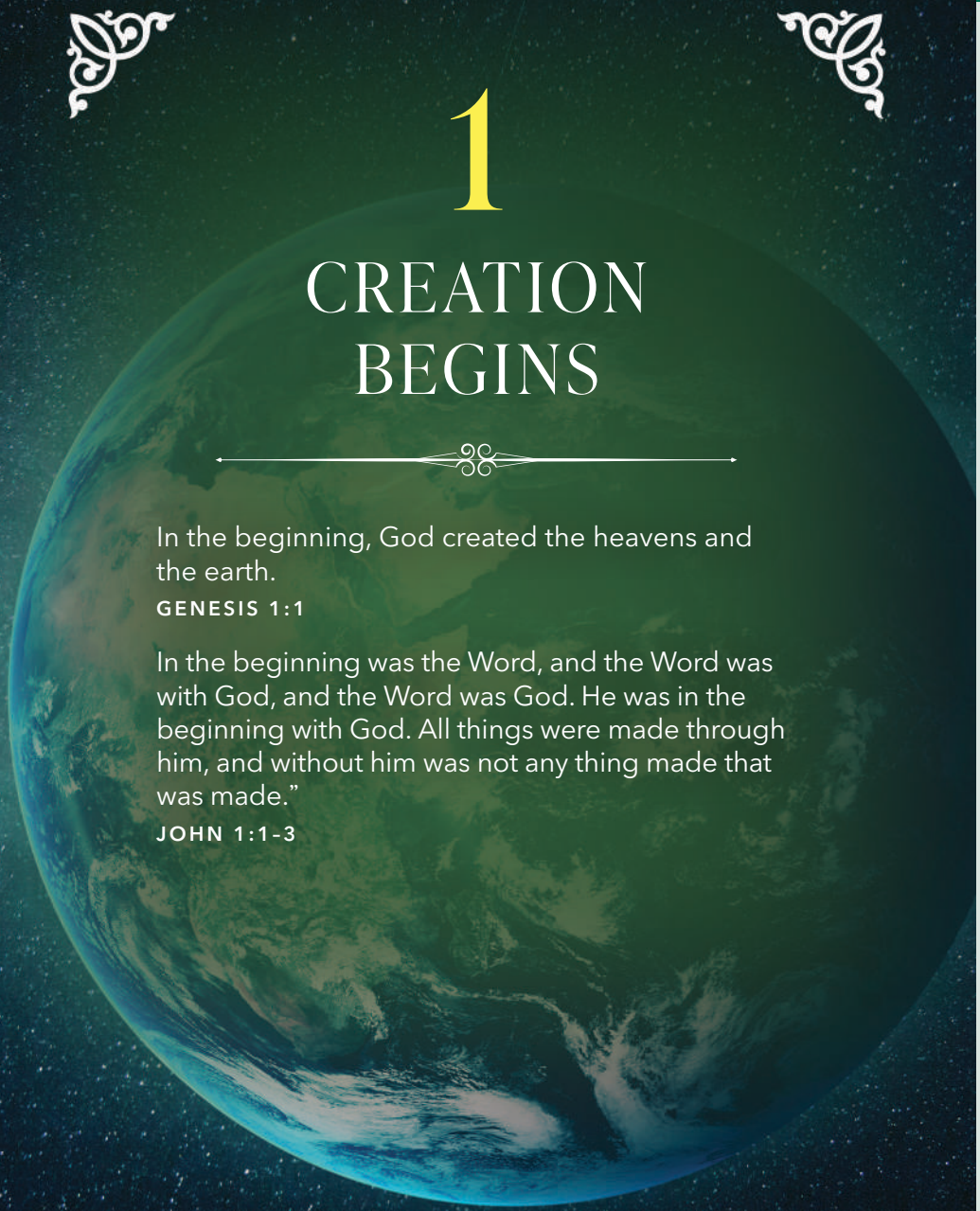
# INTRODUCTION

Nothing is a substitute for reading God's Word. A devotional can add insight, but God's Word really speaks for itself. It has power, and it is alive (1 Peter 1:23-25). However, God also gave us teachers. So, we learn from one another, and we sharpen one another.

To that end, we hope this 31-day devotional inspires you to set aside time each day to explore passages on creation and how they relate to other Scriptures. Creation is how God chose to start teaching us, to show us Himself, and it's from here that all our understanding of Scripture flows.

You'll notice each devotion concludes with questions under the heading 'Prayerful Reflection'. Our desire is that you think through them in prayer, seeking God's encouragement and guidance.

*Creation Ministries International*



# 1

# CREATION BEGINS

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

**GENESIS 1:1**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made."

**JOHN 1:1-3**



A book's initial statement holds significant importance; in just a few words, the author establishes the tone for the entire narrative of Scripture. The most impactful opening lines often become memorable sayings in their own right. As we would expect, Scripture's very first words effectively set the stage for God's overarching story.

He is the first character introduced, and His is undeniably the leading role. God stands as the protagonist of Scripture, and all other figures—whether heroes or villains, angelic or human—can only act as He permits. There was never a moment when God did not exist or was not directing the course of history. Although God was the only one who existed at the beginning, He was not alone. John's opening verses explicitly state that Jesus is a divine Person who was there at the beginning. The second verse of Genesis reveals that there is a third divine Person, called the Holy Spirit.

Genesis, in its very first verse, reveals that God is also the sole source of everything that exists outside of Himself. It was God, not multiple gods, who created the universe and everything within it. Unlike the origin myths featuring false deities, God did not have to fight a divine war to prepare for creation, nor did He struggle against other gods with their own conflicting plans. Instead, God initiates everything in a state of perfect goodness.

The phrase "the heavens and the earth" represents the totality of creation. While the earth is tiny compared to the vastness of space, it remains the center of God's special focus—the only part of creation explicitly differentiated from the heavens. The earth, serving as the unique stage where God's story unfolds, is indeed special.

## PRAYERFUL REFLECTION

- How is it significant that God alone is the creator of all things?
- How would you describe to someone their inherent accountability to Him as Creator?
- How can we better acknowledge God, and not ourselves, as the Hero of our story?



# 2

# CREATION WITH THE SPIRIT

The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

**GENESIS 1:2**

Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

**JOHN 3:5**



A dark, lifeless, and incomplete Earth lay before creation. Nothing had yet been declared "good". It was a world "without form and void"—still in process, not yet finished. Prior to light being introduced, the earth, the heavens, and water were already present. God, of course, has always existed, and in this initial state, the Spirit is intentionally highlighted. 1 Corinthians 2:10 has remained true since the very beginning of creation: "For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God."

In the same way, we too are born into a state of darkness, spiritual blindness, and lifelessness—dead in our sins (Ephesians 2:1, 5). Who convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment? Who draws us into the revelatory light of salvation? It is the Spirit. We begin our spiritual journey by the Spirit, and as believers, we continue to be sanctified by the Spirit (Galatians 3:3).

John 6:63 states that it is the Spirit who gives life, and Romans 2:19 (while a warning not to rely on the law) shows that being a guide to those who are blind and in darkness is a good thing. Praise God that it is His work alone that brings people to salvation, and praise God that He has invited us to participate in that process as well!

## PRAYERFUL REFLECTION

- If you can remember life before salvation, how would you describe it?
- For evangelism, what is the balance between divine sovereignty and human responsibility?
- When was the last time you were a guide to someone who was blind and in darkness? Or maybe, when was the last time you asked to be used in this way?

# 3

# CREATION OF LIGHT

And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

**GENESIS 1:3-5**

For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

**2 CORINTHIANS 4:6**

God's creative work reveals many aspects of His nature: He *speaks* creation into existence, and what He commands immediately comes to pass, carrying His inherent authority. The instantaneous response of creation to God's spoken command should also convict us, as we so often fail to obey His Word.

The content of God's first command is equally important: He illuminates the primordial creation. This light pre-existed the sun, moon, and other heavenly bodies; it is the visible display of God's glory. It is interesting to note that God alone was sufficient to establish a day/night cycle even before these other heavenly bodies were created.

Just as God differentiated day from night, and light from darkness, so too has He done so within our hearts. Romans 1 and 2 teach that we are without excuse through both creation and our own conscience; we have not been left in darkness. Through His spoken word, He created light, and through His written Word, we receive the light of His revelation. The very concept of light points to Jesus as the true light, that He is life, and that life was the light of all mankind (John 1:4–9). His light has not ceased, and we are called to carry it into our fallen world (Matthew 5:14–16).

## PRAYERFUL REFLECTION

- Where and how does Scripture use the imagery of light and darkness?
- What weight does God's Word carry in your own life? Are you quick to respond when you learn something new?
- Highlight some ways in your mind that you are being either obedient or disobedient as a light bearer.